REMARKS

Claims 27-140 are pending in the subject application. Hereinabove, claims 27-125 have been canceled; no claims have been amended; and no new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 126-140 are now pending and under consideration. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the objections and rejections set forth in the outstanding office action.

The outstanding office action indicates that claims 126-140 are allowable pending terminal disclaimers. To expedite allowance of claims 126-140, applicants have hereinabove canceled claims 27-125 and together herewith have filed four Terminal Disclaimers in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.321, one with respect to each of the following:

- U.S. Patent No. 5,997,915 to Bailey et al.;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,254,904 to Bailey et al.;
- U.S. Patent No. 6,451,360 to Bailey et al.; and
- U.S. Patent No. 6,673,381 to Bailey et al.

It is hereby requested that the \$110.00 fee specified in 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.321 and 1.20(d) for each of the four, above-mentioned Terminal Disclaimers be charged in accordance with the enclosed PTO-2038 Form (for a total charge of \$440.00). In the event that any additional fee is necessary in connection with the filing of these Terminal Disclaimers, the Director is hereby authorized to charge

Deposit Account No. 50-0772 for any such fee. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

It is to be understood that applicants believe that grounds exist for arguing that the presently pending claims are patentably distinct from the claims of U.S. Patent No. 5,997,915 to Bailey et al.; the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,254,904 to Bailey et al.; the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,451,360 to Bailey et al.; the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,673,381 to Bailey et al.; and the teaching of these patents and other patents cited in the outstanding office action; and it is to be further understood that and that applicants' filing of the aforementioned terminal disclaimers and cancellation of claims 27-125 are done solely for the purpose of expediting allowance of claims 126-140.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this case is in condition for allowance, and such allowance is earnestly solicited. Should any issues remain which can usefully be discussed by telephone, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

May 23, 2006

Peter Rogalskyj Reg. No. 38,601

Rogalskyj & Weyand, LLP P.O. Box 44

Livonia, New York 14487-0044

Tel: 585-346-1004 Fax: 585-346-1001 Certificate of Mailing - 37 CFR 1.8(a)

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5-23.06

b Peter Rogalsky)